



*The Voice of Vermont Business*

August 27, 2010

Ms. Susan M. Hudson, Clerk  
Vermont Public Service Board  
112 State Street-Drawer 20  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Re: Docket No. 7533-Implementation of Standard Offer Prices for Sustainably Priced Energy Enterprise Development ("SPEED") Resources

Dear Ms. Hudson:

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce files the following comments regarding the recent decision issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) pertaining to Sustainably Priced Energy Enterprise Development ("SPEED") Resources.

The Chamber has long supported policies which, amongst other objectives, support energy efficiency, cost effective renewable energy and competitive electric rates for our members and all Vermont rate payers. We remain committed to these policy objectives.

I write today because the Vermont Chamber is concerned about maintaining competitive and fairly priced electricity in Vermont. We are concerned the SPEED program and feed-in tariffs in general could result in upward pressure on Vermont electric rates. We believe the FERC action provides protection for all rate payers and might guide Vermont in re-assessing the feed-in tariff approach for Vermont.

The Vermont economy continues to struggle to regain jobs and economic activity. Maintaining competitively priced electric rates is essential to our ability to retain jobs and re-create the substantial job losses we have incurred during this recession. We urge the Board to proceed with caution on programs that could force rates even higher. The FERC decision provides the Board with the opportunity to re-evaluate the feed-in tariff and SPEED program. The evaluation should ensure that its implementation is done consistent with federal requirements as described in the FERC decision and that these programs do not result in upward pressure on Vermont's electric rates.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia Moulton Powden".

Patricia Moulton Powden  
Vice President, Public Affairs

PO Box 37, Montpelier, VT 05601-0037

Tel: 802-223-3443 ♦ Fax: 802-223-4257 ♦ e-mail: [info@vtchamber.com](mailto:info@vtchamber.com) ♦ [www.vtchamber.com](http://www.vtchamber.com)